

MY SWEATER WARMS HEART AT WELL AS BODY, SOLDIER TELLS MRS. GIBSON

Writer tells How Boys Clasp Knitted Garments to Their Breasts.

By IDAH McCLONE GIBSON
Author of "Confessions of a Wife,"
Who Has Just Returned from Europe,
Where She Was Under the
Auspices of the American Red Cross
and The West Virginian.

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When I started on my trip "Everywhere in France with the Red Cross" I had the vague idea that the Red Cross was primarily a nursing organization, that its first and greatest business was to make the wounded soldier more comfortable.

That this idea has much credence, I found illustrated the other day when some infernal, pro-German pacifist slipped in a seemingly innocent advertisement the intimation that through wastefulness and graft, it was costing the Red Cross \$500 to care for each wounded man.

In other words, German propaganda was busy shelling with lies the greatest constructive organization the world has ever known, just as German soldiers were shelling hospitals and killing women and little children on the other side.

"Tell us when you come back how the boys like our sweaters, or socks, and our hospital garments," said a number of loyal Red Cross women to me.

"Please see if our boys really get the things we send through the Red Cross," was another demand.

I stepped on the boat sailing for the other side, I got into a crowd of American boys—over a hundred—who were sailors and members of the naval flying squadron.

Not one of these boys was over 24, and most of them were under 20. They were full of the very old Nick, and kept every one on board good natured even if ten sick as I was. Every boy in that crowd was equipped with a grey sweater, scarf, helmet and wristlets, and mighty proud they were to wear them. There is something about a hand-knit garment that sets it apart from the machine product.

Later, when I arrived at our American training camps in France and saw our boys, some of them just back from the trenches, with the sweaters showing under their tunics, I wished every woman in America could realize just how much comfort these garments were bringing to those they loved.

"My sweater warms my heart as well as my body," said an American soldier to me, "for every time I pull it on over my head, I think that some woman must have been thinking of me."

This boy was wearing a sweater, and a helmet under his army hat kept his ears from freezing, for it was bitterly cold and he was "digging himself in" and cutting barbed wire entanglements on the broad expanse of flat country without a tree to break the icy blasts that swept across the miles of plain that formed the American training quarters over there. Another boy insisted upon unrolling his puttee so that he might show me the hand-knit sock, with their red and blue stripes in the heel and toe.

Since I came back, every time I see a woman knitting socks I want to go to her and tell her of how I saw, on Christmas morning at one of our largest training camps in France, boys holding their socks to their breasts and fingering them, much as a child does a beloved red wagon.

Time after time that morning I heard the words, "Gee, I'm glad I got these socks. I bet mother knit these very ones." This camp got hand-knit socks in its Red Cross Christmas bag.

Another one of those damnable Boche propaganda lies I want to nail right here. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A SWEATER SOLD BY THE RED CROSS TO ANYONE. There is not money enough in the world to buy a bit of knitted wear from the Red Cross, and the humblest American soldier can get it freely without price.

I can tell you a little story about that which I think will go far to convince you I know what I am talking about.

I was at a training camp of our soldiers. I was suffering from a terrible cold (I was afterward at the Military hospital at General Pershing's headquarters 10 days, but that is another story).

As I brought up at a Red Cross warehouse I do not think I was ever so cold in my life. I had ridden in an open motor 40 miles across plains swept by blasts that must have come straight from the North Pole; my ears were white with frost bite, my throat was raw.

Shivering in my fur coat, I was taken into this Red Cross warehouse and shown all the things that human minds can conceive for the help and comfort of the soldier and those that war makes needy.

In one of the compartments I saw a number of the knitted woolen scarfs that you knitters make over here. I immediately thought how fine one of them would be for me in my 40-mile ride back to my hotel. Do you suppose I could beg or buy one? No, sir; although I was a Red Cross worker, I was told those scarfs were for our soldiers AND NO ONE ELSE!

The warehouse man was very sorry, but I rode back my 40 miles without the scarf.

Some one has asked me what the Red Cross has done with its money. About \$53,000 has been spent in distribution of these and other small articles for the soldiers both American and French, since the United States entered the war. This amount also includes the purchase of some of the articles for comfort bags, small donations to "Mon Soldat" and many of the little things which make so much for comfort of the men at the front. Not very much money to stretch over our vast French and American armies, but supplemented by the many, many donations of knitted goods and other comforts from the Red Cross members of



One of our fighting heroes showing Mrs. Gibson the knitted helmet that money cannot buy.

The United States, the real comfort given to battle-weary men is incalculable.

I just want to add one word more. Something that was hurled at me from the trenches, from the sector which our brave boys are holding now. The Red Cross is first of all an organization to help win this war. Every man, woman and child who enrolls in it is a soldier, and is pledged to fight in every way possible for him to fight against German autocracy and German propaganda.

WE ARE AT WAR WITH GER-

MANY. As your needles click, don't let any one slack in your presence of anything that would in any way help our enemy. A hymn of hate for the Hun that have dropped bombs on our Red Cross hospitals and shot our Red Cross nurses must be one of the ways we who stay at home help to win the war.

PAY YOUR INCOME TAX RIGHT AWAY

The Government Actually Needs the Money Says Collector Hays.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., March 13.—One of these little acts of patriotism which everybody can easily do, but which when generally neglected, forms a serious handicap to the Government in its work of winning the war, is being pointed out by Hon. S. A. Hays, Collector of Internal Revenue. "We must insist," says Mr. Hays, "that every effort should be made, by those who make income tax returns, to accompany their return with a check or post-office money order for the tax shown to be due by the return. The Government actually needs the money now."

Last year the procedure was to wait until an assessment had been made before paying the income tax, and the local Internal Revenue offices feel that this idea is mistakenly being carried out this year by those who could easily make payment if they only knew the necessity for it. The war has entirely changed conditions, and advance payments have become one of the distinguishing marks between patriot and slacker.

Returns must be made by every single man with a net income of \$1,000 or more and by every married man with \$2,000. The exemption of \$2,000 for the head of a family does not also constitute an exemption from the return required of a single man with net income of \$1,000.

All payments should be made by check, New York draft or postal money order.

German Prisoners Fight for Bolsheviks

HARBIN, Manchuria, March 13.—General Semenov, an anti-Bolshevik leader in Siberia has retreated into Manchuria before the advance of a superior Bolshevik force, according to advices from the border. The accuracy of the Bolshevik fire during the fighting is taken to indicate that the cooperation of former German prisoners. General Semenov brought his dead and wounded with him in his retreat. Nurses and a supporting detachment are to leave Harbin tonight. General Semenov's munitions are reported exhausted as well as the funds at his disposal.

COAL JOBBERS FIGHT TO SAVE BUSINESS

Fear They Will be Wiped Out by Order of the Fuel Administration

(Special Dispatch to West Virginian.) WASHINGTON, D. C., March 13.—A delegation of coal jobbers and a commission men, in which are several from West Virginia, is here in conference with Senators Sutherland, Penrose and France, of Maryland. They are trying to get help to save their business from extinction, which, they claim, Fuel Administrator Garfield's order going away with the 15 cents commission allowed coal sales agencies, will do. There doesn't appear on the surface of things to be much help for these men.

The order in question is expected to do away with all commission men and cause the sale of coal direct from the mine operator to the consumer. Dr. Garfield has promised to increase prices to account for the extra expense to the operator by reason of him selling his own coal. The going into effect of this order is expected to revolutionize the sales system which has been patiently and painstakingly built up in the coal business through many years. It will, it is predicted, close sales agencies by the wholesale, put commission men out of business, and cause clerks to have to seek new employment. The small operator, it is claimed, will be annoyed more greatly and put to more expense by the effect of the order than the wealthy individual operator or the large coal corporations.

The coal men say that the effect of this order will be more far-reaching and more hurtful than they think that the officials originating it believed it would be when they issued it.

Let us see what the effect of this order will be. It will, it is predicted, close sales agencies by the wholesale, put commission men out of business, and cause clerks to have to seek new employment. The small operator, it is claimed, will be annoyed more greatly and put to more expense by the effect of the order than the wealthy individual operator or the large coal corporations.

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PROVE PATRIOTISM BY WAY YOU EAT

Food Administrator Rosier Says there is Some Hoarding in Marion Co.

There is no greater test of the patriotism of the people of Marion County than their observance of the food regulations, insisted Joseph Rosier, county food administrator, at the meeting of the County Council of Defense, when he discussed the serious shortage of foodstuffs and the pledges of the United States to aid the allies as well as the obligation of providing for the soldier boys now in France or in training for the trip across the seas.

"The employment of the volunteer method of food conservation is the same as the employment of the volunteer method of raising an army," he pointed out. "The best, most thoughtful men, patriots and most considerate serve. The others do not."

The people who need compulsion to bring them to a scrupulous adherence to duty were condemned by the food administrator in drastic censure. The few citizens of Marion County who are hoarding foodstuffs were declared to be unpatriotic. He cited a case where dozen people in one end of the county hoarded from two to ten barrels of flour and explained the severe penalties of the law in this regard, which made the regulations of the food administration of a character which were not to be trifled with.

The people who conduct themselves with regard to principles and in keeping with community interests, curtail the use of foods in line with government regulations, curtail the use of foods which must be saved, restrict themselves along the lines that the government asks. Those who do not do so need compulsion and Mr. Rosier intimated that there would be no hesitancy on his part in seeing that violators were punished as provided by the law.

LETTER LIST

List of unclaimed letters remaining in the Fairmont, W. Va. Post Office for the week ending March 9, 1918.

Ashmore, G. L. Kincaid, Mrs. J. C. Arnett, F. W. Kawan, Eliza Bennett, G. W. Keller, Josie Bennett, A. B. Kidd, Miss Julie Ballant Mrs. Nellie Lettick, William Brummage Miss Lee, L. Glenn Benson, G. P. McRay, Frank Cunningham R. F. Mike, J. L. Cochran P. Monroe, Irene Ceresa M. McDougal, B. F. Daley, Harold May, Burtha Flanigan Michael Martin, Miss Anna Fayo, Clarence B. Minnet, Miss Emma Foley, James D. Moreland, James R. Green Mrs. J. M. Reed, Roy Callien Mrs. D. I. Ridenour, E. O. Gowland, G. Summers, Margaret Godwin, C. Shattuck Lucile H. Shatter, Mrs. Cora Satterfield, Mrs. Mayme (2) Gillingham, Mrs. Sheppard, W. O. Hoot, Robert Smith, Albert W. Harris Fulton Hadden, G. T. Hiet, P. E. Hiner, D. Otto Hall, Mrs. O. Hiner, Robert T. Hiner, Robert E. Thorn, S. E. Hudson, Robert E. Thorn, S. E. Urso, Antonio (2) Honor, Miss Irene Williams, Mrs. Ber Henderson, Robert A. Wilson, F. C. Holt, W. P. Wagner, L. K. Hamilton, Minnie Wilson, Ira F. Johnson, Miss Wanda, Madam (2) Janpie Wolf, Ralph

In calling for any of the above letters please state that they were advertised in the papers, and give the date of the list.

ONE MORE EFFORT ON THE WEST FRONT, THEN COLLAPSE

That Belgian View of What German Military Machine Faces

GERMANY CAN NOT WIN

Belgians are Deeply Grateful for the Assistance America Has Given.

ON THE BELGIAN FRONT, February 8.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press): General A. de Ceuninck, the distinguished soldier and Minister of War for Belgium, today expressed to the correspondent of The Associated Press the firm conviction that the great offensive on the Western front by the Germans would be the beginning of the end for the Prussian military machine. "This is true," said the general because even if the enemy should not put his entire strength into an assault it was doomed to certain failure in view of the Allied preparedness. Having defeated the Germans in their onslaught, the Allies would be in a position, through the balance of power which America had brought them to counter with irresistible force.

The minister had been asked to discuss the military situation as it appeared in the light of Germany's present position and the Prussian claim that the present allies would be brought to their knees. The general received the correspondent in the chateau which is being used as executive headquarters for the war department and talked freely for half an hour or more. General de Ceuninck is a veteran of many battles, and he had brought with him to the ministry a comprehensive grasp of large problems, the quick decision and the discipline which have made his reputation in the Belgian army. One reads assurance and alertness in his every word and move.

At the outset of the conversation the general spoke of the close friendship existing between the United States and Belgium and referred in the most grateful terms to the assistance which America had rendered her ally through the Red Cross, the Commission for relief in Belgium and in other ways.

"The morale of the hard pressed Belgians has been sustained and increased by the knowledge that the citizens of the United States were standing with them in the battle for freedom and justice. You have lightened our load and enabled us to continue the struggle," said the general. He paused, and then added with a great feeling:

"I assure you that the first thing Belgium will do after the conclusion of peace will be to erect a monument to her good friend."

The general turned to the outlook for the Allied arms on the battlefield. "We do not underestimate the strength of our opponents," he said. "Germany is a military nation, a powerful nation and she is not yet defeated. America however, has brought into the conflict the additional resources necessary for Allied victory is assured. The outcome of the war now hinges on the

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question of numbers, and the superiority rests with us.

"Germany will fail in any offensive which she may be preparing for on the western front. The Allies are ready for any move and will present an unbreakable line. If the enemy is going to stake everything on a big attack and is calling out every resource he can command, he will have reached the beginning of the end when he fails to break through, for the counter strokes of the Allies can result in only one thing—defeat for Germany. It may take some time to put the finishing touches on the victory but this will be accomplished."

"So far as the Belgian army is concerned it is prepared for eventualities. The morale of the troops and of the civilian population never has been higher than it is today. Our soldiers are eager to fight. At times we have had difficulty in restraining them until the proper moment for action, for they chafe under the restraint. But they must be content to await developments. They are only one wheel of the great allied machine and every part of the machine must work in cooperation to make it run smoothly. Whenever the call comes we shall be waiting to respond with every atom of strength which we have."

"The entrance of America into the war has done much to cheer our troops. The fact that the United States is with us, both as a friend and as a fighting ally, means to the men in the trenches that he is not making a vain sacrifice. He is sure of victory and is more eager than ever to carry the battle to the enemy camp. Our confidence in the outcome of the war has been strengthened greatly by the business like way in which the United States government has undertaken its task. I recently saw some detachments of American soldiers who have come over to fight with us. They were fine, clean cut men, athletic, intelligent and intensely energetic. It was an inspiration to see them. There is more hard fighting in sight, but we shall win."

A remedy for indigestion of the bilious tract. Painless, non-poisonous. Relieves in 1 to 5 days. Jarrol Post Office, 3rd Edition, 1917. Prepared by THE EVANS CHEMICAL CO., CINCINNATI, O.

HERE'S A SPLENDID SPRING TONIC

Purifies the Blood, Strengthens the Vital Organs, Renews Energy and Builds Up Health Generally.

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Anyone who may need a good spring tonic, one that will purify the blood, strengthen the vital organs, renew worn out energy and build up the health generally should take Hypo-Cod, the great health builder. It gets right down to the seat of the trouble and uproots it so quickly and pleasantly that you'll hardly realize you are taking medicine.

Thousands of people, who had been weak, delicate, pale and sickly, who lacked appetite, couldn't sleep, had frequent headaches, and were run down generally have taken Hypo-Cod with splendid results. This due to the fact that Hypo-Cod contains nothing but the finest and most beneficial ingredients for such troubles. For instance, Hypo-Cod contains the very valuable medicinal extracts from fresh cod livers combined with malt, iron, quinine, wild cherry bark, manganese, hypophosphates, lime, aromatics and a dash of sherry wine, a combination that cannot help but build up and strengthen weak, anemic, sickly and run down men, women and children. Ask your doctor.

There is nothing secret or mysterious about Hypo-Cod. The full formula as

outlined above is printed on every ant bottle label for your guidance and protection. No dangerous or habit-forming drug is contained in it and you can give it to the most delicate child with the assurance that it will benefit them in keeping with the faithfulness with which it is taken. In fact children thrive on Hypo-Cod and the find its pleasant wine-like flavor delightful. It is one medicine that the children ask for.

Just get a bottle of Hypo-Cod today. It costs but little as you can get a large bottle for only \$1.20 which contains enough of this splendid tonic to treat the average family for weeks since a tablespoon before meals and at bedtime is a dose. For children give a teaspoonful four or five times a day. If your druggist hasn't Hypo-Cod he can get it for you or by sending \$1.20 to Earle Chemical Co., Wheeling, W. Va. you can get a fresh bottle prepaid.

Hypo-Cod is sold here by Fairmont Pharmacy, Crane Drug Store, Martin's Drug Store, Bolt Drug Co., Mountain City Drug Co. and Hall's Drug Co.; in Shinnston by Johnson's Pharmacy; in Farmington by W. F. Moran; in Monongah by Windsor Drug Co.; in Fairview by Frank J. Yost.

